

From: Steve Ober
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 2:22pm
Subject: collect and give where needed -- not punishment

Dear Staff,

Gates is getting off by offering little to nothing. Operating Systems like Bill's need to allow other systems and programs like Linux to run together otherwise the same monopoly is there.

I work in mental health research and people who receive mental health services are in great need of computers. This will not only help them but the whole community will be benefited by creating tax payers and lower the great benefit dollar that is paid out to may who could work if they received proper training and employment assistance. The ticket to work program is spreading out and many people with brain disorders will have the opportunity to work and not suffer the benefit cliff.

With all the time and money that public funds were used in the legal battle why rush into an agreement before spending the time to get a return for the public for the illegal business practices Microsoft has engaged in?

Please don't overlook people with disabilities when opportunities like these surface.

We need computers and software to train people to become taxpayers. If not now when?

With all the money being shift to children's education, which is the way it should be, it is leaving people with work histories like children out in the cold. Don't just punish Gates; rather use some of this ill-gotten gain to help people who truly need the help. Remember those whom you know with brain disorders and how hard they try to work with their limitations. I am one and work around many and advocate by research and trying to get a grant to address well documented unmet informational needs that consumers, loved ones, service providers and the public are telling us they need.

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